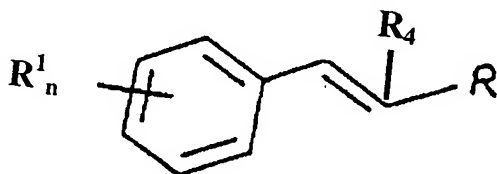


PENDING CLAIMS

2. (Twice Amended) A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising at least one aromatic compound having the formula



wherein R represents -CHO, -CH₂OH, -COOH, or -COOR₅; n is an integer from 0 to 3; each R¹ represents -OH, or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms, wherein the total number of carbon and heteroatoms in all R¹ substituents of said compound is no more than 15; and R₄ represents -H or an organic constituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and R₅ represent an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms; and wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said at least one aromatic compound.

6. (Amended) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said aromatic compound is one or more aromatic aldehydes selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

7. The method according to Claim 6, wherein said aromatic aldehyde is microencapsulated in a polymer.

8. The method according to Claim 7, wherein said polymer is beeswax or carnauba wax.

15. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said composition comprises a surfactant.

22. The method according to claim 7, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of soil-borne pathogens.

23. The method according to claim 7, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of thrips, aphids, spider mites, arachnids, nematodes, and leafhoppers.

24. The method according to claim 7, wherein said administering to said plant consists of application by foliar spray.

25. The method according to Claim 15 wherein said surfactant is Tween 80 or saponin.

26. (Amended) A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising one or more aromatic aldehydes selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde, wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said one or more aldehyde.

29. The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological organisms are selected from the group consisting of aphids, thrips, spider mites, arachnids, nematodes, and leafhoppers.

30. The method according to Claim 26, wherein said green plant is selected from the group consisting of a rose, a grape, a tomato, and a bell pepper.

31. The method according to Claim 26, wherein said composition further comprises a surfactant.

32. The method according to Claim 31 wherein said surfactant is Tween 80 or saponin.

33. The method according to Claim 26, wherein said composition further comprises a salt of a polyprotic acid.

34. The method according to Claim 33, wherein said salt of a polyprotic acid is sodium bicarbonate.

35. (New) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

36. (New) The method according to claim 7, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of fungi.

37. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said aromatic aldehyde is selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

38. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological organisms are selected from the group consisting of soil borne pathogens.

39. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological organisms are selected from the group consisting of fungi.